BRAIN BUSTERS

AN POST LITERACY AND NUMERACY CHALLENGE

an post

PRIMARY PRACTICE CHALLENGES

into

Irish National Teachers' Organisation

Cumann Múinteoirí Éireann

LITERACY

1. Choose a prompt below and, in your copybook, write 200 words with reference to the images.

Tip: Think fast! Can you write your story in under 6 minutes?

a. William Tell shot an apple off his son's head. Describe how you felt when the cruel governor, commanded your father to split the apple that was placed on your head, with a crossbow arrow?

b. You are sitting on the new rug in your bedroom, and mumbled something to yourself about wishing you were on holidays. The rug rose majestically off the floor, with you onboard. Where does the rug take you?

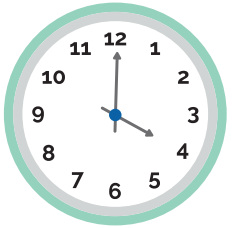
c. Somebody emerged from the shadows... I watched hidden in the undergrowth... I was shocked to see....

NUMERACY

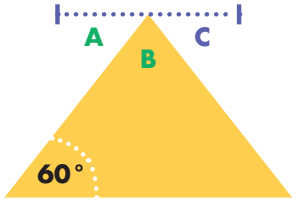
2. Solve the following maths problems.

Tip: Remember, a full circle is 360 degrees!

a. On a clock, how many degrees does the hour hand move from 4pm until 8:30pm?



b. How many degrees is angle C, if A is 60 degrees and the bottom angle is also 60 degrees?



c. If I face North and turn clockwise through 225 degrees, what direction will I be facing?

3. Examine the document presented.

Tip: If you don't know a word, the way it is used in a sentence can give you a clue!

CONSTITUTION OF IRELAND

Enacted by the People 1st July, 1937

In operation as from 29th December, 1937

THE NATION

ARTICLE 1

The Irish nation hereby affirms its inalienable, indefeasible, and sovereign right to choose its own form of Government, to determine its relations with other nations, and to develop its life, political, economic and cultural, in accordance with its own genius and traditions.

ARTICLE 2

It is the entitlement and birthright of every person born in the island of Ireland, which includes its islands and seas, to be part of the Irish Nation. That is also the entitlement of all persons otherwise qualified in accordance with law to be citizens of Ireland. Furthermore, the Irish nation cherishes its special affinity with people of Irish ancestry living abroad who share its cultural identity and heritage.

ARTICLE 3

1 It is the firm will of the Irish nation, in harmony and friendship, to unite all the people who share the territory of the island of Ireland, in all the diversity of their identities and traditions, recognising that a united Ireland shall be brought about only by peaceful means with the consent of a majority of the people, democratically expressed, in both jurisdictions in the island. Until then, the laws enacted by the Parliament established by this Constitution shall have the like area and extent of application as the laws enacted by the Parliament that existed immediately before the coming into operation of this Constitution.

2 Institutions with executive powers and functions that are shared between those jurisdictions may be established by their respective responsible authorities for stated purposes and may exercise powers and functions in respect of all or any part of the island.

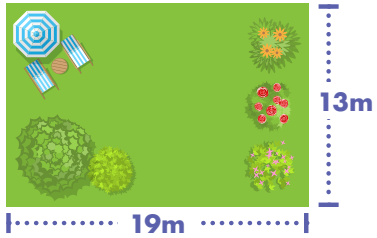
a. Explain the meaning of the following words:
Birthright
Territory
Democratically

b. Which Article states that "the Irish nation cherishes its special affinity with people of Irish ancestry living abroad who share its cultural identity and heritage"?

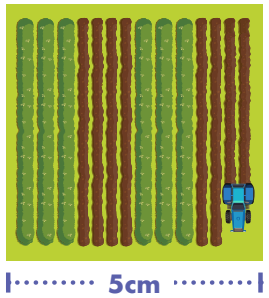
4. Answer the following questions on perimeters.

Tip: Perimeter is the distance around the outside of a shape. The lines around the edge of a soccer field show the perimeter of the field.

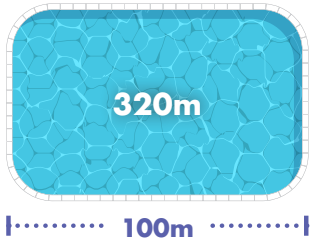
a. How much will it cost to put a fence around a garden that is 19m long and 13m wide, if fencing costs €18 per metre?



b. The plan of a square field drawn to a scale of 1cm:25m. What is the perimeter of the field for ordering fencing if one side is 5cm long? How many trees would I need if I was planting one every 10m?



c. The perimeter of the swimming pool is 320m. The length of the pool is 100m long. How many lanes will there be in the pool if each lane is 5 metres wide?



5. Decipher the following codes.

Tip: This is a great skill for any Brain Busters competitor to master...

a. Crack the code.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
11	22	13	4	15	16	7	8	9	10	1	22	23
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
24	5	6	17	18	20	25	12	3	14	2	21	19

25 8 9 20 9 20 11

....

7 18 15 11 25 7 11 23 15!

....!

b. Can you figure out the following equations? And then solve them?

😄	😍	😴	😜	🐠	🐿️	🍄	🌻	🤓	😉
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

i. 🍄 🤓 😉 😄 + 😴 😜 🐿️ 🐠 =

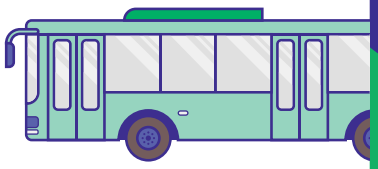
ii. 🌻 🤓 😍 / 😍 🐠 =

iii. (😴 – 😄) x 😜 =

6. Solve the following problems.

Tip: Use rough paper if you need to.

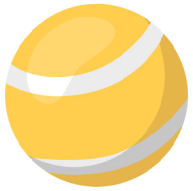
a. Cathy leaves for school in the morning and walks to the bus stop 650m away. She forgets her lunch box so must go back home for it and then runs back to the bus stop just in time for the bus. She travels 3.850km on the bus and walks the remaining 1/4km to her classroom. How far has Cathy travelled altogether that morning?



b. Put in the brackets to make this true: **3 x 10 – 5 x 3 = 15**

c. A well is 10m deep. A frog climbs up 5m during the day, but falls back 4m at night. Assuming that the frog starts at the bottom of the well, how many days will it take the frog to get to the top?

d. In a game of Crossball, a team can score either 3 points or 7 points. Which scores can a team not make? The team have to reach 12 to win the game.



7. Fill in the timelines below to find out when the events in question occurred.

Tip: One person's whereabouts has been filled in for you.

a. My family and I went to the match to watch our favourite team play. In the first half hour, there was a lot of movement in and out of our seats and I was the only member of my family to see the first goal – what time did our team score their first goal?

- The match started at 2pm.
- Mom and I went to the bathroom just as the whistle to throw in the ball was blown at the beginning of the match. We were gone for 15 minutes.
- Dad saved our seats, then went to the shop to get some treats when we came back and was gone for 10 minutes.
- Mom's friend called her while dad was buying the sweets but she couldn't hear the phone call because of the crowd. She went to the lobby to take the call. She came back with 5 minutes to go until the end of the first half and couldn't believe what she'd missed.

Time	Me	Mom	Dad
2:00	Bathroom		
2:05	Bathroom		
2:10	Bathroom		
2:15	Seat		
2:20	Seat		
2:25	Seat		
2:30	Seat		

Continued on next page.

b. Mary came home at 2pm to find her birthday present on the doorstep. What time did Mary's friend leave her present on the doorstep?

- Mom was home from 10 – 12 noon.
- Dad called home for lunch between 12 noon and 1pm.
- John called to wash the windows and he was there from 1:30 until Mary got home.

Time	Mom	Dad	John	Mary
10:00am				
10:30am				
11:00am				
11:30am				
12:00pm				
12:30pm				
1:00pm				
1:30pm				
2:00pm				

8. Read both bank statements and answer the questions below.

Tip: Reading a bank statement is great skill to have - it's important that the final isn't the first time you see one!

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An Post Current Account, BillPost, Enterprise House, Cappa Road, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 VX23, Ireland

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Your Current Account statement

Mary — *January 2022*

Date	Details	Money Out €	Money In €	Balance
01/09/2021	Balance Brought forward			38.50
02/09/2021	Mobile Top Up	30		8.50
03/09/2021	Wages		250	258.50
04/09/2021	Cinema (POS)	18.32		240.18
06/09/2021	Branch Pay In (cheque)		50	290.18
07/09/2021	ATM	100		190.18
07/09/2021	Mobile Top Up	20		170.18
09/09/2021	Tesco POS	25		145.18
13/09/2021	CR Tesco		20	166.18
14/09/2021	Water Company	21		144.18

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Your Current Account statement

John — *January 2022*

Date	Details	Money Out €	Money In €	Balance
01/09/2021	Balance Brought forward			65.02
01/09/2021	Wages		265	330.02
02/09/2021	SO Credit Union	100		230.02
04/09/2021	DD Mobile Company	35		195.02
09/09/2021	Movie Company POS	45		140.02
12/09/2021	DC Restaurant	30		110.02
13/09/2021	ATM Lodgement		50	160.02
14/09/2021	Water Company	21		144.18
13/09/2021	CR Tesco		20	166.18
14/09/2021	Water Company	21		144.18

a. Whose telephone bill was higher based on these two accounts?

b. Who spent the least in September 2021, comparing these two accounts?

Please complete the bank statement for the following customer.

James started out the month with €450 in his bank account. He had a number of bills to be paid throughout the month – The Water Company €30 on the 7th, broadband €25 on the 13th, phone bill for €25 on the 21st, and the Gym €10 on the 28th. His salary of €1000 gets paid on the 19th. He withdrew €100 cash at the ATM on the 12th, 22nd and 29th. His savings of €50 go out of his main account on 3rd and he went with friends to a restaurant on the 8th costing him €40.

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Your Current Account statement

James — *January 2022*

Date	Details	Money Out €	Money In €	Balance
1st	Balance Brought forward			450
3rd				
7th				
8th				
12th				
13th				
19th	Wages			
21st				
22nd				
28th				
29th				

d. Liam got €50 for his birthday from his auntie. He put it into his Savings Jar in his bank account. Every week, he earns €5 for doing jobs around the house and lodges this money.

i. Complete the table below, showing the first 8 weeks of Liam's savings.

ii. When will Liam be able to afford to buy new sports equipment, which costs €95?

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Savings Jar Statement

Liam — *January 2022*

Week	Details	Paid Out €	Paid In €	Balance
1	Birthday Gift		€50	€50
2	Chores		€5	€55
3	Chores		€5	€60
4	Chores		€5	€65
5	Chores		€5	€70
6				
7				
8				

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